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APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
09/975,102	10/11/2001	Kousuke Asami	201630-9001	8765

7590 11/15/2005  
MICHAEL BEST & FRIEDRICH LLC  
401 North Michigan Avenue  
Chicago, IL 60611

EXAMINER
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DANIEL JR, WILLIE J

ART UNIT	PAPER NUMBER
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2686

DATE MAILED: 11/15/2005

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

**Office Action Summary**

Application No.

09/975,102

Applicant(s)

ASAMI, KOUSUKE

Examiner

Willie J. Daniel, Jr.

Art Unit

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-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --

**Period for Reply**

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 3 MONTH(S) OR THIRTY (30) DAYS, WHICHEVER IS LONGER, FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133). Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

**Status**

- 1) ☒ Responsive to communication(s) filed on 23 June 2005.
- 2a) ☒ This action is **FINAL**. 2b) ☐ This action is non-final.
- 3) ☐ Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

**Disposition of Claims**

- 4) ☒ Claim(s) 1 and 18-36 is/are pending in the application.
- 4a) Of the above claim(s) \_\_\_\_\_ is/are withdrawn from consideration.
- 5) ☐ Claim(s) \_\_\_\_\_ is/are allowed.
- 6) ☒ Claim(s) 1 and 18-36 is/are rejected.
- 7) ☐ Claim(s) \_\_\_\_\_ is/are objected to.
- 8) ☐ Claim(s) \_\_\_\_\_ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

**Application Papers**

- 9) ☐ The specification is objected to by the Examiner.
- 10) ☐ The drawing(s) filed on \_\_\_\_\_ is/are: a) ☐ accepted or b) ☐ objected to by the Examiner.  
Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).  
Replacement drawing sheet(s) including the correction is required if the drawing(s) is objected to. See 37 CFR 1.121(d).
- 11) ☐ The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner. Note the attached Office Action or form PTO-152.

**Priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119**

- 12) ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
- a) ☐ All b) ☐ Some \* c) ☐ None of:
1. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
  2. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. \_\_\_\_\_.
  3. ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

\* See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.

**Attachment(s)**

- |                                                                                         |                                                                             |
|-----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|-----------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| 1) <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)             | 4) <input type="checkbox"/> Interview Summary (PTO-413)                     |
| 2) <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948)    | Paper No(s)/Mail Date. _____                                                |
| 3) <input type="checkbox"/> Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO-1449 or PTO/SB/08) | 5) <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Informal Patent Application (PTO-152) |
| Paper No(s)/Mail Date _____                                                             | 6) <input type="checkbox"/> Other: _____                                    |

### DETAILED ACTION

1. This action is in response to applicant's amendment filed on 23 June 2005. **Claims 1 and 18-36** are now pending in the present application.

### *Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 112*

2. The following is a quotation of the first paragraph of 35 U.S.C. 112:

The specification shall contain a written description of the invention, and of the manner and process of making and using it, in such full, clear, concise, and exact terms as to enable any person skilled in the art to which it pertains, or with which it is most nearly connected, to make and use the same and shall set forth the best mode contemplated by the inventor of carrying out his invention.

**Claims 1, 24, 29, 33 and 35** are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 112, first paragraph, as failing to comply with the written description requirement. The claim(s) contains subject matter which was not described in the specification in such a way as to reasonably convey to one skilled in the relevant art that the inventor(s), at the time the application was filed, had possession of the claimed invention.

**Claim 1** recites the limitation "...speech and the sound..." in line 8 of the claim. The applicant is advised to review the cited subject matter of the specification (see pg. 3, line 20), which states "...speech or sound...".

**Claim 1** recites the limitation "...first speaker, and the sound..." in lines 14-16 of the claim. The applicant is advised to review the cited subject matter of the specification (see Fig. 5 "S504, S511, S509"), which allows the controller to switch between one function or the other.

**Claim 24** recites the limitation "...and/or speech..." in lines 1-2 of the claim. The applicant is advised to review the cited subject matter of the specification (see pg. 3, lines 20-

21; pg. 7, lines 13-19....), which states "...sound including a call incoming tone and music...". The cited lines refer to sound being a tone or music not a received speech.

**Claim 29** recites the limitation "...speech, and/or a call..." in lines 1-2 of the claim. The applicant is advised to review the cited subject matter of the specification (see pg. 3, lines 20-21; pg. 7, lines 13-19....), which states "...sound including a call incoming tone and music...". The cited lines refer to sound being a tone or music not a received speech.

**Claim 33** recites the limitation "...speech **and** the sound..." in lines 5-6 of the claim. The applicant is advised to review the cited subject matter of the specification (see pg. 3, line 20), which states "...speech or sound...".

**Claim 33** recites the limitation "...first speaker, **and** the sound..." in lines 9-11 of the claim. The applicant is advised to review the cited subject matter of the specification (see Fig. 5 "S504, S511, S509"), which allows the controller to switch between one function **or** the other.

**Claim 35** recites the limitation "...first speaker, **and** the sound..." in lines 6-8 of the claim. The applicant is advised to review the cited subject matter of the specification (see Fig. 5 "S504, S511, S509"), which allows the controller to switch between one function **or** the other.

Regarding **claims 1, 24, 29, 33, and 35**, the claim(s) includes a limitation that is not supported by the amended instant application. The Examiner respectfully requests the applicant to provide page(s), line(s), and figure(s) of the instant application that supports the limitations of the claim(s) and/or any supportive comment(s) to help clarify and resolve these issue(s).

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3. This list of examples is not intended to be exhaustive. The Examiner respectfully requests the applicant to review all claims and clarify the issues as listed above as well as any other issue(s) that are not listed.

***Claim Objections***

4. **Claims 24 and 35** are objected to because of the following informalities:

- a. **Claim 24** recites "...and/or..." in line 1 of the claim.
- b. **Claim 35** recites "...and/or..." in line 4 of the claim.

Regarding **claims 24 and 35**, the Examiner request clarification of the claim language to clearly express the limitations as supported by the amended instant application. The Examiner respectfully requests the applicant to provide page(s), line(s), and figure(s) of the instant application that supports the limitations of the claim(s) and/or any supportive comment(s) to help clarify and resolve these issue(s).

Appropriate correction is required.

5. This list of examples is not intended to be exhaustive. The Examiner respectfully requests the applicant to review all claims and clarify the issues as listed above as well as any other issue(s) that are not listed.

***Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 102***

6. The following is a quotation of the appropriate paragraphs of 35 U.S.C. 102 that form the basis for the rejections under this section made in this Office action:

(a) the invention was known or used by others in this country, or patented or described in a printed publication in this or a foreign country, before the invention thereof by the applicant for a patent.

**Claims 1, 18, and 33-34** are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(b) as being anticipated by **Yamamoto (JP 2001177609 - JPO computer translation)**.

Regarding **Claim 1**, Yamamoto discloses a portable telephone which reads on the claimed “cellular phone” for interchanging information, including a received speech signal, with a base station in a mobile communication system, said cellular phone (see Fig. 1) comprising:

a memory (13) configured to store the sound (see [0008]; Fig. 1), where the memory stores musical sound;

a loudspeaker (21) which reads on the claimed “first speaker” configured to selectively output the received speech and the sound (see [0004, 0011-0012]; Fig. 1), where the loudspeaker outputs received voice (i.e., speech) and sound;

a loudspeaker (27) which reads on the claimed “second speaker” configured to selectively output the sound (see [0004, 0014]; Fig. 1), where the loudspeaker outputs musical sound;

a central processing unit (CPU1) which reads on the claimed “controller” in communication with the first and second speakers (21, 27), and configured to selectively communicate the sound to the first and second speakers (21, 27) simultaneously, the sound to first speaker (21), the received speech to the first speaker (21), and the sound to the second speaker (27) (see [0004, 0011-0012, 0014]; Fig. 1).

Regarding **Claim 18**, Yamamoto discloses the phone as claimed in claim 1, further comprising:

a received speech amplifier (10) and a first sound amplifier (18) in communication with the first speaker (21) for amplifying the received speech and the sound, respectively (see [0007-0008]; Fig. 1); and

a second sound amplifier (19, 24) in communication with the second speaker (27) for amplifying the sound (see [0009]; Fig. 1).

Regarding **Claim 33**, Yamamoto discloses a method for outputting a received speech and stored sound from a portable telephone which reads on the claimed “cellular phone” that interchanges information, including the received speech signal, with a base station in a mobile communication system, said cellular phone (see Fig. 1) comprising:

providing a memory (13) configured to store the sound (see [0008]; Fig. 1), where the memory stores musical sound;

providing a loudspeaker (21) which reads on the claimed “first speaker” configured to selectively output the received speech and the sound (see [0004, 0011-0012]; Fig. 1), where the loudspeaker outputs received voice (i.e., speech) and sound;

providing a loudspeaker (27) which reads on the claimed “second speaker” configured to selectively output the sound (see [0004, 0014]; Fig. 1), where the loudspeaker outputs musical sound;

providing a central processing unit (CPU1) which reads on the claimed “controller” in communication with the first and second speakers (21, 27), and configured to selectively communicate the sound to the first and second speakers (21, 27) simultaneously, the sound to

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first speaker (21), the received speech to the first speaker (21), and the sound to the second speaker (27) (see [0004, 0011-0012, 0014]; Fig. 1).

Regarding **Claim 34**, Yamamoto discloses the method of claim 33, further comprising:

a received speech amplifier (10) and a first sound amplifier (18) in communication with the first speaker (21) for amplifying the received speech and the sound, respectively (see [0007-0008]; Fig. 1); and

a second sound amplifier (19, 24) in communication with the second speaker (27) for amplifying the sound (see [0009]; Fig. 1).

### ***Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 103***

7. The following is a quotation of 35 U.S.C. 103(a) which forms the basis for all obviousness rejections set forth in this Office action:

(a) A patent may not be obtained though the invention is not identically disclosed or described as set forth in section 102 of this title, if the differences between the subject matter sought to be patented and the prior art are such that the subject matter as a whole would have been obvious at the time the invention was made to a person having ordinary skill in the art to which said subject matter pertains. Patentability shall not be negated by the manner in which the invention was made.

**Claims 19-22, 25-29, 31-32, and 35-36** are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over **Yamamoto (JP 2001177609 - JPO computer translation)** in view of **Nakanishi (US 6,047,195)**.

Regarding **Claim 19**, Yamamoto teaches changing or adjusting the sound volume (see [0015-0016, 0012]), where user changes the sound volume in which the sound setting would be inherent because the user operates a key to adjust sound volume or gain of the amplifier. As additional support, Yamamoto fails to disclose having the feature wherein the



controller is further configured to selectively communicate the received speech and the sound according to a sound setting. However, the examiner maintains that the feature wherein the controller is further configured to selectively communicate the received speech and the sound according to a sound setting was well known in the art, as taught by Nakanishi.

In the same field of endeavor, Nakanishi discloses the feature wherein the controller is further configured to selectively communicate the received speech and the sound according to a sound setting (see col. 3, lines 45-50, 60-67; col. 5, lines 15-30; Figs. 1-3).

Therefore, it would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made to combine the teachings of Yamamoto and Nakanishi to have the feature wherein the controller is further configured to selectively communicate the received speech and the sound according to a sound setting, in order to provide a sound volume setting device for a portable telephone for setting the volume of a receiving speech sound and a calling sound, as taught by Nakanishi (see col. 1, lines 53-58).

Regarding **Claim 20**, Yamamoto teaches changing or adjusting the sound volume (see [0015-0016]). As a note, portable cellular phones typical have a volume adjuster to change the volume level of speech in which a sound setting for speech mode would be inherent because Yamamoto teaches of the speech processing of a voice signal (see [0007, 0011-0012]). As additional support, Yamamoto fails to disclose having the feature wherein the sound setting includes a received speech mode. However, the examiner maintains that the feature wherein the sound setting includes a received speech mode was well known in the art, as taught by Nakanishi.

Nakanishi further discloses the feature wherein the sound setting includes a received speech mode (see col. 3, lines 45-50, 60-67; col. 5, lines 15-30; Figs. 1-3).

Therefore, it would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made to combine the teachings of Yamamoto and Nakanishi to have the feature wherein the sound setting includes a received speech mode, in order to provide a sound volume setting device for a portable telephone for setting the volume of a receiving speech sound and a calling sound, as taught by Nakanishi (see col. 1, lines 53-58).

Regarding **Claim 21**, the combination of Yamamoto and Nakanishi discloses every limitation claimed, as applied above (see claim 20), in addition Nakanishi further discloses the phone as claimed in claim 20, wherein, in response to an incoming call, the controller (CPU1) communicates the sound with the second sound amplifier (24) and not with the first sound amplifier (18) and the received speech amplifier (10) (see [0010]).

Regarding **Claim 22**, the combination of Yamamoto and Nakanishi discloses every limitation claimed, as applied above (see claim 21), in addition Yamamoto further discloses the phone as claimed in claim 21, wherein the stored sound includes a call incoming signal (see [0017], lines 1-3), where a melody is used for signaling an incoming call.

Regarding **Claim 25**, the combination of Yamamoto and Nakanishi discloses every limitation claimed, as applied above (see claim 20), in addition Yamamoto further discloses the phone as claimed in claim 20, wherein the controller (CPU1) communicates the received speech signal with the received speech amplifier (10) and not with the first and second sound amplifiers (18, 24) (see [0007, 0011]).

Regarding **Claim 26**, Yamamoto teaches changing or adjusting the sound volume (see [0014-0016]), where user changes the sound volume in which the sound setting would be inherent because the user operates a key to adjust sound volume or gain of the amplifier. As additional support, Yamamoto fails to disclose having the feature wherein the sound setting includes a sound mode. However, the examiner maintains that the feature wherein the sound setting includes a sound mode was well known in the art, as taught by Nakanishi.

Nakanishi further discloses the feature wherein the sound setting includes a sound mode (see col. 3, lines 45-50, 60-67; col. 5, lines 15-30; Figs. 1-3).

Therefore, it would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made to combine the teachings of Yamamoto and Nakanishi to have the feature wherein the sound setting includes a sound mode, in order to provide a sound volume setting device for a portable telephone for setting the volume of a receiving speech sound and a calling sound, as taught by Nakanishi (see col. 1, lines 53-58).

Regarding **Claim 27**, the combination of Yamamoto and Nakanishi discloses every limitation claimed, as applied above (see claim 26), in addition Yamamoto further discloses the phone as claimed in claim 26, wherein the controller (CPU1) communicates the received speech signal with the received speech amplifier (10) and not with the first and second sound amplifiers (18, 24) (see [0007, 0011]).

Regarding **Claim 28**, the combination of Yamamoto and Nakanishi discloses every limitation claimed, as applied above (see claim 26), in addition Yamamoto further discloses the phone as claimed in claim 26, wherein the controller (CPU1) communicates the sound with the first and second sound amplifiers simultaneously (see [0008, 0014]).

Regarding **Claim 29**, the combination of Yamamoto and Nakanishi discloses every limitation claimed, as applied above (see claim 28), in addition Yamamoto further discloses the phone as claimed in claim 28, wherein the sound includes music, speech, and/or a call incoming signal (see [0008, 0014, 0016-0017]), where the sound is a musical-sound signal, melody signaling, or ringer tone.

Regarding **Claim 31**, the combination of Yamamoto and Nakanishi discloses every limitation claimed, as applied above (see claim 28), in addition Yamamoto further discloses the phone as claimed in claim 28, further comprising a digital signal processor configured to receive the sound from the memory (13), generate the sound in a stereophonic fashion, and communicate the sound with the controller (CPU1) (see [0008, 0013-0014, 0017]).

Regarding **Claim 32**, the combination of Yamamoto and Nakanishi discloses every limitation claimed, as applied above (see claim 28), in addition Yamamoto further discloses the phone as claimed in claim 28, further comprising a digital aural processor configured to receive the sound from the memory, generate the sound in a dual monaural fashion and communicate the sound with the controller (CPU1) (see [0008, 0013-0014, 0017]).

Regarding **Claim 35**, Yamamoto a method for outputting a speech received by a cellular phone from a base station included in a mobile communication system, and a sound stored in a memory of the cellular phone, wherein the speech is output by a first speaker of the cellular phone and the sound is output by the first speaker (21) and/or a second speaker (27) of the cellular phone (see Fig. 1), the method comprising:

outputting the sound from the first and second speakers (21, 27), the speech from the first speaker (21), the sound from the first speaker (21), and the sound from the second speaker

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(27) (see [0004, 0011-0012, 0014]; Fig. 1). Also, Yamamoto teaches changing or adjusting the sound volume (see [0015-0016, 0012]), where user changes the sound volume in which the sound setting would be inherent because the user operates a key to adjust sound volume or gain of the amplifier. Yamamoto fails to disclose having the features determining a sound setting. However, the examiner maintains that the features determining a sound setting; according to a sound setting was well known in the art, as taught by Nakanishi.

Nakanishi discloses the features determining a sound setting (see col. 3, lines 45-50, 60-67; col. 5, lines 15-30; Figs. 1-3);

according to a sound setting (see col. 3, lines 45-50, 60-67; col. 5, lines 15-30; Figs. 1-3).

Therefore, it would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made to combine the teachings of Yamamoto and Nakanishi to have the features determining a sound setting; according to a sound setting, in order to provide a sound volume setting device for a portable telephone for setting the volume of a receiving speech sound and a calling sound, as taught by Nakanishi (see col. 1, lines 53-58).

Regarding **Claim 36**, Yamamoto discloses the sound is output from the first and second speaker simultaneously (see [0014]). Yamamoto teaches changing or adjusting the sound volume (see [0014-0016]), where user changes the sound volume in which the sound setting would be inherent because the user operates a key to adjust sound volume or gain of the amplifier. As additional support, Yamamoto fails to disclose having the feature wherein the sound setting includes a sound mode. However, the examiner maintains that the feature wherein the sound setting includes a sound mode was well known in the art, as taught by Nakanishi.

Nakanishi further discloses the feature wherein the sound setting includes a sound mode (see col. 3, lines 45-50, 60-67; col. 5, lines 15-30; Figs. 1-3).

Therefore, it would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made to combine the teachings of Yamamoto and Nakanishi to have the feature wherein the sound setting includes a sound mode, in order to provide a sound volume setting device for a portable telephone for setting the volume of a receiving speech sound and a calling sound, as taught by Nakanishi (see col. 1, lines 53-58).

**Claims 23-24** are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over **Yamamoto (JP 2001177609 - JPO computer translation)** in view of **Nakanishi (US 6,047,195)** as applied to claim 20 above, and further in view of **Kouyama (US 2001/0023196 A1)**.

Regarding **Claim 23**, the combination of Yamamoto and Nakanishi discloses the features above as applied to claim 20, in addition Yamamoto discloses a received speech amplifier (10) (see [0007-0008]; Fig. 1), where musical sound or ringer tone signals flows through the sound amplifiers and not the received speech amplifier. The combination of Yamamoto and Nakanishi fails to disclose having the feature wherein the controller communicates the sound with the first sound amplifier and not with the second sound amplifier and the received speech amplifier. However, the examiner maintains that the feature wherein the controller communicates the sound with the first sound amplifier and not with the second sound amplifier and the received speech amplifier was well known in the art, as taught by Kouyama.

In the same field of endeavor, Kouyama discloses the feature wherein the controller (10) communicates the sound with the first sound amplifier (17) and not with the second sound amplifier (15) and the received speech amplifier (see pg. 3, [0052-0053]; Figs. 3 and 4 “ref. S15”; and 7), where the call tone generator (11) outputs a current to amplifier (17) in which the switches connected to amplifier (15) are off.

Therefore, it would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made to combine the teachings of Yamamoto, Nakanishi, and Kouyama to have the feature wherein the controller communicates the sound with the first sound amplifier and not with the second sound amplifier and the received speech amplifier, in order to have a portable telephone set capable of ensuring sound pressure and reducing current rating of the loudspeaker drive amplifier, as taught by Kouyama (see pg. 1, [0008]).

Regarding **Claim 24**, the combination of Yamamoto, Nakanishi, and Kouyama discloses every limitation claimed, as applied above (see claim 23), in addition Yamamoto further discloses the phone as claimed in claim 23, wherein the sound includes music and/or speech (see [0008, 0014]), where the sound is a musical-sound signal.

**Claim 30** is rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over **Yamamoto (JP 2001177609 - JPO computer translation)** in view of **Nakanishi (US 6,047,195)** as applied to claim 28 above, and further in view of **Corkum (US 6,134,455)**.

Regarding **Claim 30**, the combination of Yamamoto and Nakanishi discloses every limitation claimed, as applied above (see claim 28), in addition Yamamoto further discloses having the feature wherein the controller (CPU1) is further configured to increase a volume

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of the sound communicated from the controller (CPU1) (see [0015]), where the user changes sound volume. Also, Nakanishi further discloses having the feature wherein the operating portion (24) which reads on the "controller" is further configured to increase a volume of the sound communicated from the controller (24) (see col. 3, lines 60-67; Figs. 1-3), where the user sets the level of the calling and received speech sound. However, the combination of Yamamoto and Nakanishi fails to disclose having the feature to stepwise increase. However, the examiner maintains that having the feature to stepwise increase was well known in the art, as taught by Corkum.

In the same field of endeavor, Corkum discloses having the feature to stepwise increase (see col. 6, lines 10-15; Fig. 2), where the determiner (58) can increase a plurality of ringing levels form using a step function.

Therefore, it would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art, at the time the invention was made to combine the teachings of Yamamoto, Nakanishi, and Corkum to have the feature to stepwise increase, in order to annunciate the magnitude level of an incoming call, as taught by Corkum (see col. 2, lines 46-51).



***Response to Arguments***

8. Applicant's arguments with respect to claims 1 and 18-36 have been considered but are moot in view of the new ground(s) of rejection.

***Conclusion***

9. Applicant's amendment necessitated the new ground(s) of rejection presented in this Office action. Accordingly, **THIS ACTION IS MADE FINAL**. See MPEP § 706.07(a). Applicant is reminded of the extension of time policy as set forth in 37 CFR 1.136(a).

A shortened statutory period for reply to this final action is set to expire THREE MONTHS from the mailing date of this action. In the event a first reply is filed within TWO MONTHS of the mailing date of this final action and the advisory action is not mailed until after the end of the THREE-MONTH shortened statutory period, then the shortened statutory period will expire on the date the advisory action is mailed, and any extension fee pursuant to 37 CFR 1.136(a) will be calculated from the mailing date of the advisory action. In no event, however, will the statutory period for reply expire later than SIX MONTHS from the date of this final action.

10. Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Willie J. Daniel, Jr. whose telephone number is (571) 272-7907. The examiner can normally be reached on 7:30-4:30.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Marsha D. Banks-Harold can be reached on (571) 272-7905. The fax phone

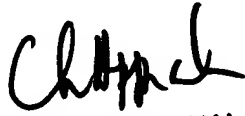
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number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 571-273-8300.

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free).

WJD,JR

04 November 2005

  
CHARLES APPIAH  
PRIMARY EXAMINER